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THE

STATIONS OF THE CROSS.

WITH FOURTEEN ILLUSTRATIONS

BY D. MOSLER.

THE DEVOTIONS NEWLY TRANSLATED FROM THE

"CŒLESTE PALMETUM."

PERMISSU SUPERIORUM.

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MDCCCLIX.

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NOTICE.

THE devotion of the VIA CRUCIS, Stations of the Cross, or the sighs of the loving soul who carries the Cross of Christ and desires to tread in His footsteps, may be devoutly offered not merely during the season of Lent, but also at any other time of the year either at home, or in the Church where the Stations are usually distributed and marked out by either the various altars or pictures. .

OBSERVE.—To gain the Indulgences annexed to this most profitable exercise of the Way of the Cross, it is not required to recite any particular form of prayer. Thus, neither these nor any other particular prayers are obligatory; they are only offered as a suitable manner of performing the devotion.

The Indulgences annexed to this devotion are the same as those which are granted to pilgrims visiting the actual places themselves in Palestine.

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VIA CRUCIS.

PREPARATORY PRAYER.

RECEIVE, O Most Holy Trinity, this tribute of service which I offer to Thee, in token of my subjection to Thy Divine Majesty, of grateful acknowledgment for the mercy of my redemption, in satisfaction also for my sins, and to obtain rest for the departed, grace for the living and the glory of Heaven for all, in union with the merits of Our Lord Jesus Christ, of the Blessed Virgin and of all the Saints. To Thee be praise, glory and honour, O Blessed Trinity, for ever and ever. Amen.

STATION I.

JESUS IS CONDEMNED BY PILATE.

℣. We adore Thee, O Christ, and we bless Thee.

℟. For that by thy Holy Cross Thou hast redeemed the world.

℣. Adoramus Te Christe et benedicimus Tibi.

℟. Quia per Sanctam Crucem Tuam redemisti mundum.

To be repeated at each of the Stations respectively.

Here also every one should endeavour to meditate for a while, according to his ability, upon the Passion and Death of Our Lord Jesus Christ. (This condition is indispensable.)

CONSIDERATION. — He submitted Himself of His own free will to this unjust judgment of Pilate, that He might deliver me from the sentence of eternal damnation.

MEDITATION FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURE. — The wicked said, thinking unjustly within themselves, let us circumvent the JUST MAN, for He is contrary to our works; He declareth Himself to have the knowledge of God, and He calleth Himself the Son of God. Let us see if His words be true, and if He be indeed the Son of God, let Him deliver Himself out of our hands; let us condemn Him by a most shameful death. (Wisdom, i.)

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STATION I.

JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH.

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Lord have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c.
Hail Mary, &c.
Glory be, &c.

℣. God spared not His own Son.

℟. But delivered Him up for us all.

℣. He was offered because He willed it.

℟. And opened not His mouth.

℣. O Lord, hear my prayer.

℟. And let my cry come unto Thee.

Then, after the versicles, say the Collect, "DOMINE JESU," *etc., and repeat at each Station.*

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, who didst come down from Heaven to this earth from the bosom of the Father, and didst shed Thy precious blood for the remission of our sins; we humbly beseech Thee, that being placed by Thee on Thy right hand at the Day of Thy Judgment, we may hear Thee say, "Come ye blessed of my Father." O Thou who livest and reignest with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, ever One God world without end. Amen.

Oremus.

Domine Jesu Christe, qui de cœlis ad terram de sinu Patris descendisti, et sanguinem tuum pretiosum in remissionem peccatorum nostrorum fudisti; Te humiliter deprecamur, ut in die judicii ad dexteram tuam audire mereamur, Venite benedicti. Qui vivis et regnas cum Deo Patre in unitate Spiritus Sancti Deus per omnia sæcula sæculorum. Amen.

℣. Have mercy upon us, O Lord.

℟. Have mercy upon us.

℣. And may the souls of the faithful through the mercy of God rest in peace. ℟. Amen.

℣. Miserere nostri Domine.

℟. Miserere nostri.

℣. Fidelium animæ per misericordiam Dei requiescant in pace.

℟. Amen.

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STATION II.

THE CROSS IS LAID UPON THE SHOULDERS OF JESUS.

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℣. Adoramus Te Christe, &c.
℟. Quia per Sanctam Crucem, &c. (p 3.)

CONSIDERATION.—The sinners have ploughed furrows upon my back. (Ps. cxxviii.)

MEDITATION FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURE.—Hail to Thee, O Our King. Thou only hast had compassion on our errors. Obedient to Thy Father, Thou wast led away to be crucified, unresisting, as a lamb is led to the slaughter. Glory be to Thee, Hosanna in the Highest, to Thee be Victory and Triumph, and an Eternal Crown of Praise and Glory. (St. Matth. Isaias.)

Lord have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c.
Hail Mary, &c.

℣. The chastisement of our peace was upon Him.
℟. And with His bruises we are healed.
℣. The Lord hath laid upon Him the iniquity of us all.
℟. For the sin of His people He hath stricken Him.
℣. O Lord hear my prayer.
℟. And let my cry come unto Thee.

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, &c. (p. 5.)

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STATION III.

JESUS FALLS UNDER HIS CROSS.

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℣. Adoramus Te Christe, &c.
℟. Quia per Sanctam Crucem, &c. (p. 3.)

CONSIDERATION.—How great is the weight of our sins, under which He fell, who upholdeth all things by the word of His power.

MEDITATION FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURE. — Our Lord Jesus Christ hath humbled Himself to death, even the Death of the Cross. Wherefore God hath highly exalted Him, and hath given Him a Name which is above every name. (Phil. ii. 8.)

Lord have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c.
Hail Mary, &c.

℣. Verily He hath borne on Himself our infirmities.
℟. And He hath carried our sorrows.
℣. He was wounded for our iniquities.
℟. And He was bruised for our sins.
℣. Lord hear my prayer.
℟. And let my cry come unto Thee.

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, &c. (p. 5.)

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STATION IV.

JESUS MEETS HIS AFFLICTED MOTHER AND ST. JOHN.

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℣. Adoramus Te Christe, &c.
℟. Quia per Sanctam Crucem, &c. (p. 3.)

CONSIDERATION.—With what a sharp sword of grief must not the heart of His most Sorrowing Mother and of the most loving disciple have been pierced on thus beholding Jesus carrying His Cross? Consider, O my soul, what ought to be thy feeling of compassionate grief?

MEDITATION FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURE.—O all ye that pass by on the way, attend and see if there be any grief like unto my grief. Therefore do I weep and mine eyes run down with tears, for the Comforter, he that should have converted my soul, is far off from me. Mine eyes have failed for very weeping, my bowels are shaken, my heart is poured out upon the ground, for the beating down of the daughter of my people, for the enemy hath prevailed. (Lamentations of Jeremias.)

Lord have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy upon us,
Lord have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c.
Hail Mary, &c.

℣. Thy desolation is overwhelming as the sea.
℟. Who can heal thee?
℣. The sword of grief hath passed through thy soul.
℟. That the thoughts of many hearts might be revealed.
℣. Lord hear my prayer.
℟. And let my cry come unto Thee.

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, &c. (p. 5.)

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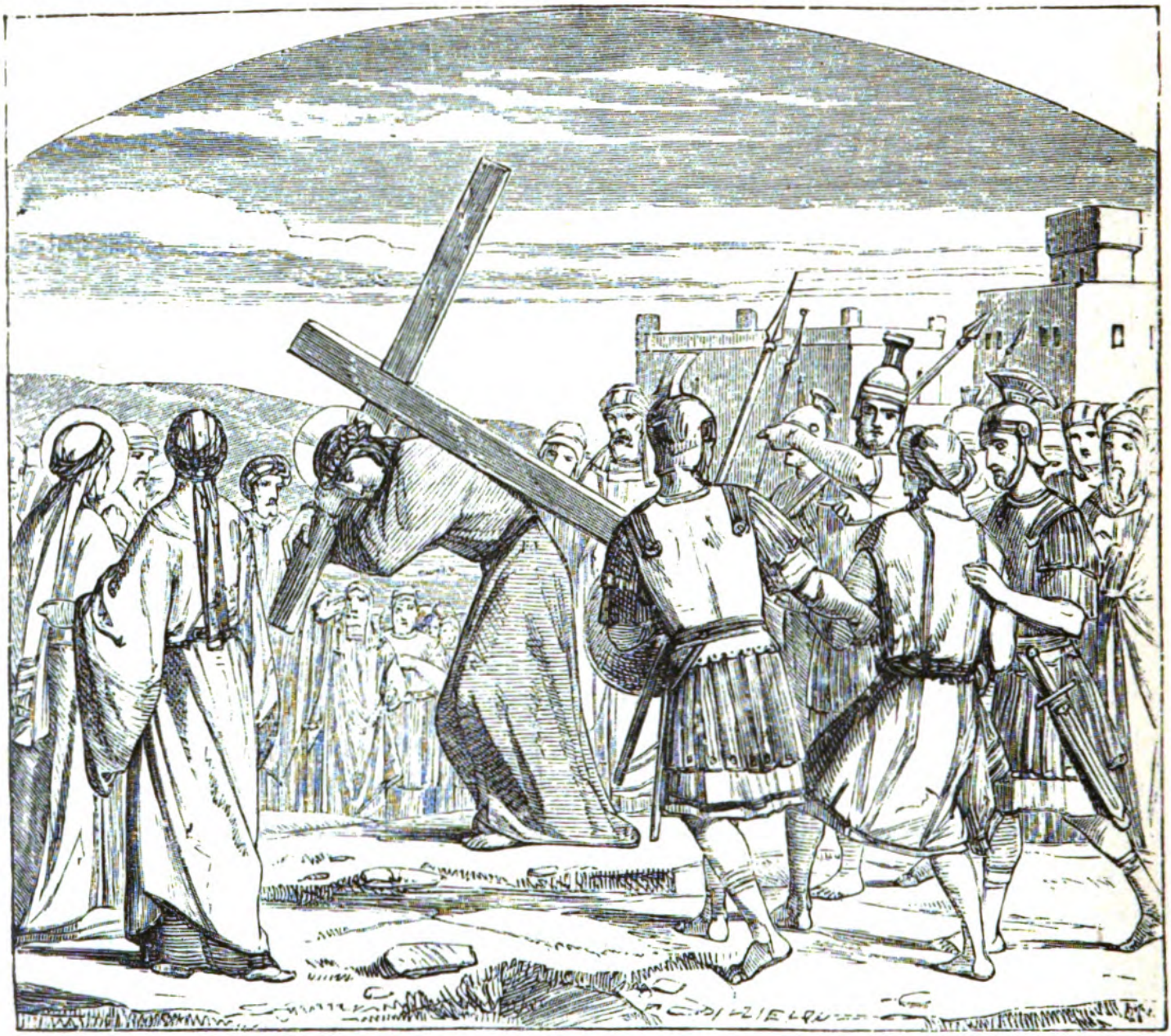
STATION V.



SIMON OF CYRENE IS COMPELLED TO AID JESUS TO BEAR THE CROSS.

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℣. Adoramus Te Christe, &c.
℟. Quia per Sanctam Crucem, &c. (p. 3.)

CONSIDERATION. — This man Simon is compelled to bear the Cross after Jesus. How much greater would have been his merit if he had borne it willingly. O my soul, what is thy willingness in bearing the Cross of Christ?

MEDITATION FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURE.—It behoveth us to glory in the Cross of Christ, in Whom is our Salvation, Life, and Resurrection, by whom we are saved and delivered. (Gal. vi. 14, and iv. 31.)

Lord have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c.
Hail Mary, &c.

℣. God forbid that I should glory save in the Cross of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

℟. Through whom the world is crucified to me and I to the world.

℣. O faithful Cross, O tree, alone noble among the trees.

℟. No wood bears the fellow to thee, in leaf, flower, or blossom.

℣. Lord hear my prayer.

℟. And let my cry come unto Thee.

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, &c. (p. 5.)

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STATION VI.

"ST. VERONICA WIPES THE FACE OF JESUS WITH A NAPKIN," AND OBTAINS AN IMPRESSION UPON IT OF HIS MOST SACRED FACE.

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℣. Adoramus Te Christe, &c.
℟. Quia per Sanctam Crucem, &c. (p. 3.)

CONSIDERATION.—What a wonderful memorial was that which St. Veronica obtained from Christ. Contemplate thyself in it continually as it were in a mirror.

MEDITATION FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURE.—Behold we have seen Him, having neither beauty nor comeliness, despised and the most abject of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with infirmity; His look was as it were hidden and despised, whereon we esteemed Him not. His visage is inglorious among the living, and His form among the Sons of Men, and yet He is beautiful in form above all the Sons of Men, and by His bruises we are healed. (Isaias liii. and lii., and Psalm xliii.

Lord have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord have mercy upon us.

℣. Convert us O Lord God of Hosts.
℟. Shew us the light of Thy countenance and we shall be saved.
℣. Turn not thy face from us.
℟. And go not far from thy servants in thine anger.
℣. Lord hear my prayer.
℟. And let my cry come unto Thee.

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, &c. (p. 5.)

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STATION VII.

CHRIST FALLS UNDER HIS CROSS NEAR THE GATE OF JUDGMENT.

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℣. Adoramus Te Christe, &c.
℟. Quia per Sanctam Crucem, &c. (p. 3.)

CONSIDERATION.—O my soul, how wilt thou be able to stand in the day of judgment?

MEDITATION FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURE.—They have delivered me up into the hands of the wicked, they have cast me forth among the evil doers, and have had no mercy on my soul. The strong men have gathered themselves against me, and like giants they have stood in my way, glaring upon me terribly with their eyes and cruelly striking me with blows, they have laughed me to scorn. (Job xvi. 10, and Psalms).

Lord have mercy upon us.

Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c.
Hail Mary, &c.

℣. But I am a worm and no man.

℟. The shame of men and the outcast of the people.

℣. All they that have seen me have derided me.

℟. They have spoken with their lips and have shaken their heads at me.

℣. Lord hear my prayer.

℟. And let my cry come unto Thee.

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, &c. (p. 5.)

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STATION VIII.

THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM TESTIFY THEIR GRIEF AT THE SIGHT OF JESUS CARRYING HIS CROSS.

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℣. Adoramus Te Christe, &c.
℟. Quia per Sanctam Crucem, (p. 3.)

CONSIDERATION.—O my soul, where are the tears with which thou lamentest thy sins. Perhaps thou canst find tears enough with which to lament the loss of anything of this world.

MEDITATION FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURE.—Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold the day shall come in the which they shall say, "blessed are the barren and the wombs that have never borne, and the breasts which have never given suck. Then shall they begin to say to the mountains, fall upon us, and to the hills, cover us. For if they do these things in the green wood, what shall be done in the dry." (St. Luke's Gospel).

Lord have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c.
Hail Mary, &c.

℣. Christ the Lord the breath of our nostrils.

℟. Has been taken in the net of our sins.

℣. The crown of our head is fallen from us.

℟. Woe unto us, for we have sinned.

℣. Lord hear my prayer.

℟. And let my cry come unto Thee.

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, &c. (p. 5.)

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STATION IX.

JESUS FALLS FOR THE LAST TIME UNDER HIS CROSS.

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℣. Adoramus Te Christe, &c.
℟. Quia per Sanctam Crucem, &c. (p. 3.)

CONSIDERATION.—O how often is Jesus weighed down under the weight of our sins!

MEDITATION FROM THE OFFICE OF GOOD FRIDAY.—O my people, what have I done unto thee, and in what have I grieved thee? Answer me! I brought thee out of the land of Egypt, and thou hast brought Me out to the death of the Cross. I have fed thee with manna in the wilderness for forty years, and thou hast smitten Me on the face and hast scourged me with stripes. I have given to thee a royal sceptre and thou hast crowned My head with a crown of thorns. What more ought I to have done for thee that I have not done?

Lord have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c.
Hail Mary, &c.

℣. As a sheep is led to the slaughter.
℟. And as a lamb before her shearers is dumb.
℣. He hath delivered his soul to death.
℟. That he might give life to His people.
℣. Lord hear my prayer.
℟. And let my cry come unto thee.

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, &c. (p. 5.)

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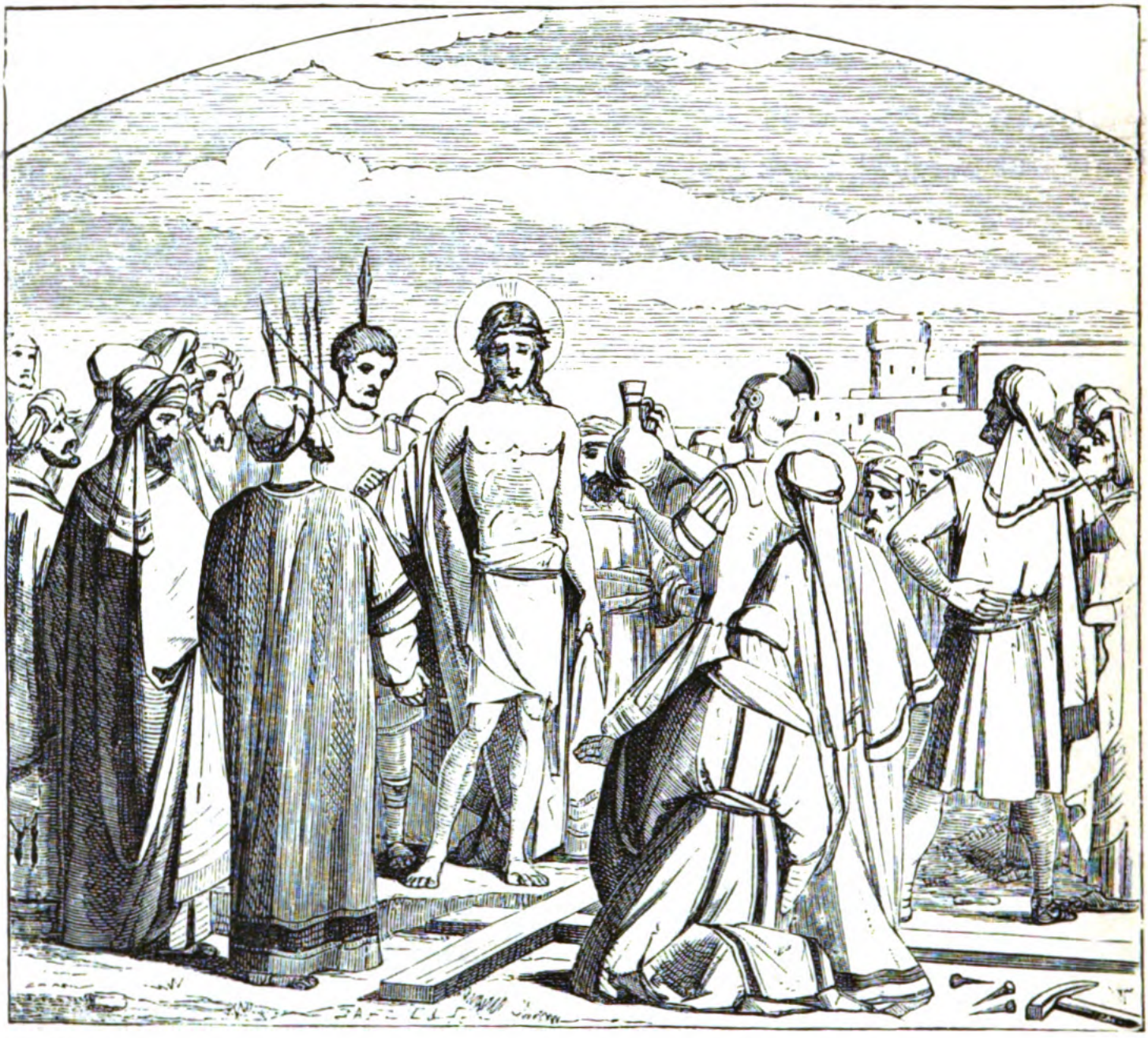
STATION X.



JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS, AND HAS GALL AND VINEGAR GIVEN HIM TO DRINK.

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℣. Adoramus Te Christe, &c.
℟. Quia per Sanctam Crucem, &c. (p. 3.)

CONSIDERATION.—O my soul, art thou never cruel to the poor? If thou art, remember, thou doest the same thing to Jesus, as did his executioners.

MEDITATION FROM THE OFFICE OF GOOD FRIDAY.—O my people what have I done unto thee, and in what have I wearied thee? Answer Me. I have brought thee out of the house of bondage into the land of promise, and thou hast led Me, who came down for thy sake from the bosom of the Father, to the death of the Cross. I planted thee My chosen vine and thou hast become to Me exceeding bitter. I gave thee to drink of the waters of salvation, and thou hast given to Me gall and vinegar. What more ought I to have done to thee and have not done it?

Lord have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c.
Hail Mary, &c.

℣. My strength is dried up like a potsherd.

℟. My tongue cleaveth to my mouth.

℣. I have had given to me for my food gall to eat.

℟. And in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.

℣. Lord hear my prayer.

℟. And let my cry come unto Thee.

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, &c. (p. 5.)

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STATION XI.

JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS.

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℣. Adoramus Te Christe, &c.
℟. Quia per Sanctam Crucem, &c. (p. 3.)

CONSIDERATION.—How mighty are the bands of love with which Jesus hath bound Himself. O my soul, ask thyself, with what bands of love art thou in turn bound to Him?

MEDITATION FROM THE OFFICE OF GOOD FRIDAY.—O my people what have I done to thee? I have exalted thee with great power, and thou hast lifted Me up upon the Cross. I have made thee higher than all nations, and thou hast filled me with thy reproofs and thy blasphemings. I have opened the Red Sea before thy feet and thou hast pierced my side with a spear. What more is there that I could have done for thee and have not done it?

Lord have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c.
Hail Mary, &c.

℣. What are these wounds in the midst of thy hands.

℟. With these have I been wounded in the house of My friends.

℣. They have pierced My hands and My feet.

℟. They have told all my bones.

℣. Lord hear my prayer.

℟. And let My cry come unto Thee.

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, &c. (p. 5.)

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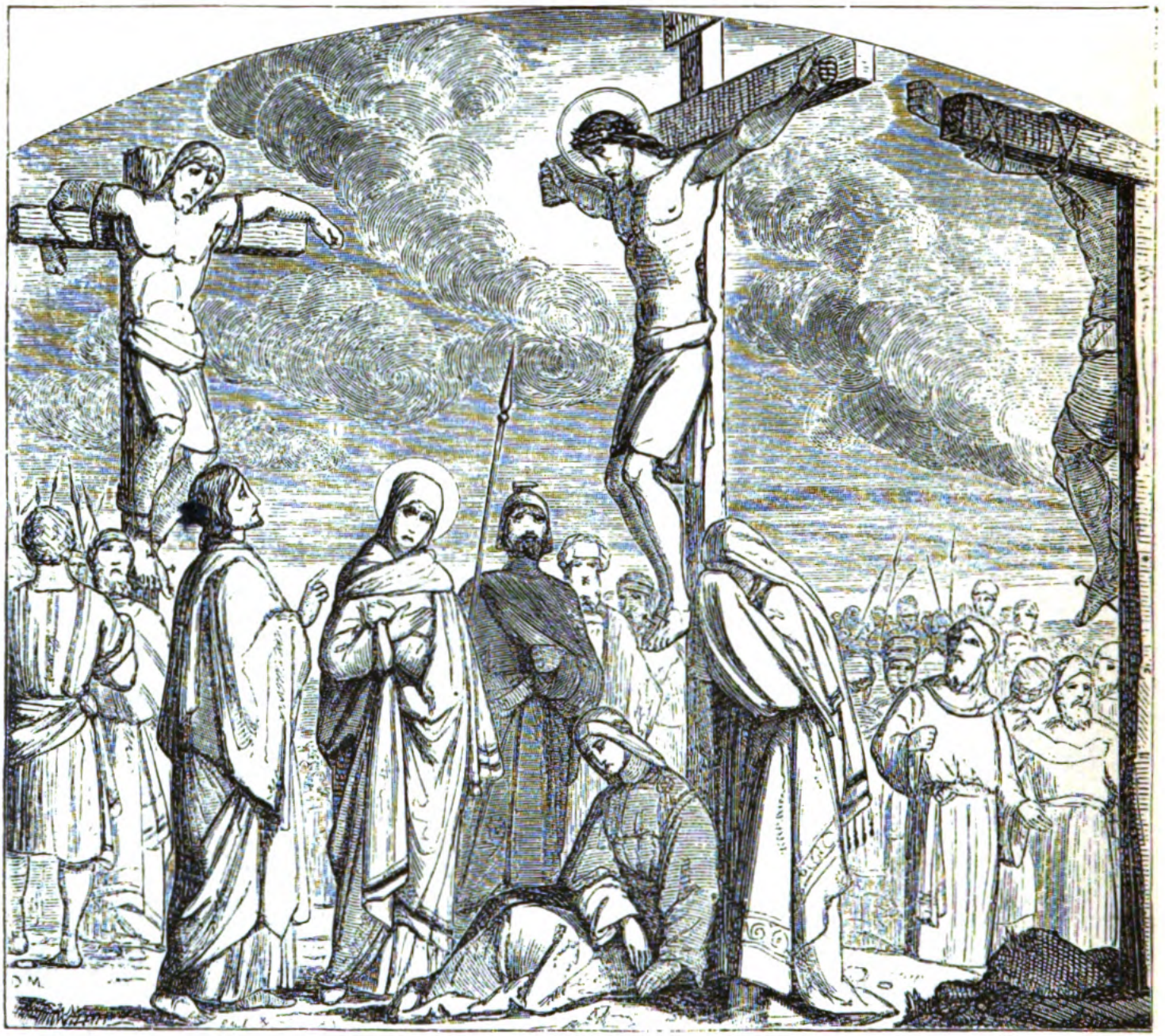
STATION XII.



JESUS HANGS UPON THE CROSS AND DIES IN THE PRESENCE OF HIS MOST SORROWING MOTHER.

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℣. Adoramus Te Christe, &c.
℟. Quia per Sanctam Crucem, &c. (p. 3.)

CONSIDERATION.—Consider how Jesus took leave of His Blessed Mother upon the Cross, and how he commended His Spirit into the hands of His Eternal Father. O my soul, pray that thou mayest in like manner die the death of the JUST.

MEDITATION FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURE.—Behold how the just man dieth, and no man taketh it to heart. The righteous men are taken away and no man careth. The just man is taken away from the midst of iniquity, and his memory shall be held in benediction. (Ecclesiasticus.)

Lord have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c.
Hail Mary, &c.

℣. Christ hath become obedient for us unto death.

℟. Even the death of the Cross.

℣. We adore Thee, O Christ, and we bless Thee.

℟. For that by Thy Holy Cross Thou has redeemed the World.

℣. Lord hear my prayer.

℟. And let my cry come unto Thee.

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, &c (p. 5.)

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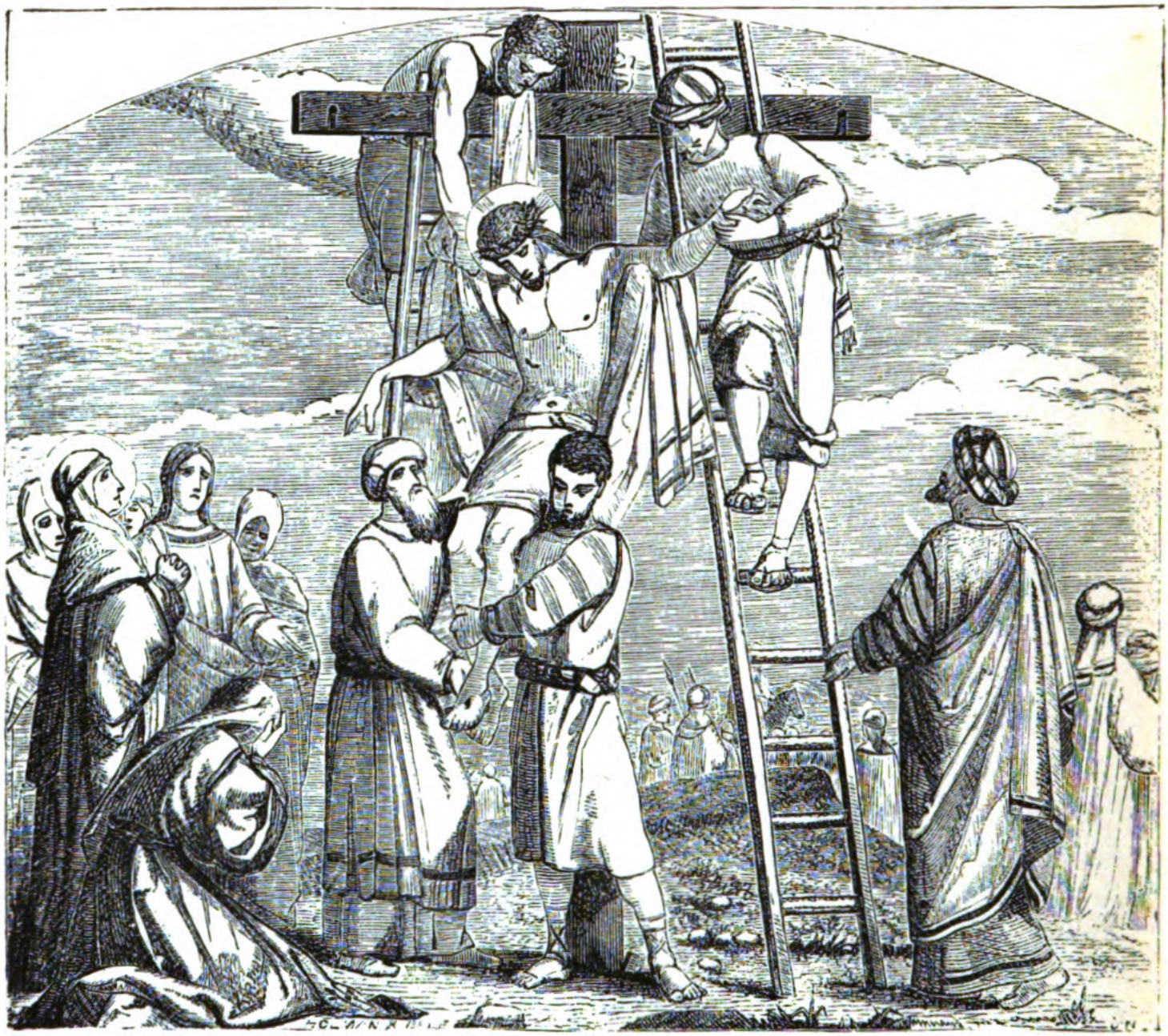
STATION XIII.



THE DEAD BODY OF JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS IN THE PRESENCE OF HIS MOST AFFLICTED MOTHER.

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℣. Adoramus Te Christe, &c.
℟. Quia per Sanctam Crucem, &c. (p. 3.)

CONSIDERATION.—Consider the most vehement grief of the soul of Mary as the dead body of her Son is taken down from the Cross, and as she prepares to receive Him into her arms and to give Him her last embrace. Her love hath caused her such great sorrow that it has of a truth made her a martyr. Ask thyself, O my soul, what love and compassion thou hast for thy Saviour?

MEDITATION FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURE. — To whom shall I liken thee, and to whom shall I compare thee, O daughter of Jerusalem; overwhelming as the sea is thy desolation.—O Mother of Mercy grant that I may grieve with thee for the death of Christ, and make me ever to share in His most Holy Passion. (Lamentations of Jeremias.)

Lord have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c.
Hail Mary, &c.

℣. Through Thee do we receive the gift of salvation, O Virgin Mary.
℟. From the wounds of Christ.
℣. Merciful Jesus for Thy Mother's sake grant me to gain
℟. The palm of victory.
℣. Lord hear my prayer.
℟. And let my cry come unto Thee.

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, &c. (p. 5.)

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STATION XIV.

JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB.

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℣. Adoramus Te Christe, &c.
℟. Quia per Sanctam Crucem, &c. (p. 3.)

CONSIDERATION.—Consider, O my soul, how the body of Jesus has been embalmed with sweet spices, that it may be buried in a new tomb in which no man has been laid. With what honours dost thou receive thy Redeemer whether spiritually or sacramentally? Art thou at all times careful to be the new tomb, adorned with befitting ornaments of virtue.

MEDITATION FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURE.—I am esteemed like to them that go down into the pit. I am become as a man without help, free among the dead. O good Lord Jesus, I come hither with the Holy Women, weeping and lamenting that I have made myself so unworthy to preserve and maintain the Kingdom of Thy Grace in my heart (Ps. lxxxvii.)

Lord have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord have mercy upon us.

Our Father, &c.
Hail Mary, &c.

℣. My flesh shall rest in hope.
℟. For Thou wilt not let Thine Holy One see corruption.
℣. Rise up, O Lord, and help me.
℟. And deliver me from my sins.
℣. Lord hear my prayer.
℟. And let my cry come unto Thee.

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, &c. (p. 5.)

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PRAYERS

FOR THE CONCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC DEVOTION OF THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS.

ANT. Christus factus est pro nobis obediens usque ad mortem, mortem autem Crucis.

℣. Parce, Domine, parce populo tuo.

℟. Et ne in æternum irascaris nobis.

Oremus.

Respice quæsumus Domine, super hanc familiam tuam, pro qua Dominus Noster Jesus Christus non dubitavit manibus tradi nocentium et Crucis subire tormentum, Qui vivis et regnas in sæcula sæculorum. Amen.

ANT. Christ was made for us obedient to death, even the death of the Cross.

℣. Spare, O Lord, spare thy people.

℟. And be not angry with us for ever.

Let us pray.

Look down, we beseech Thee, O Lord, upon this Thy family, for the which our Lord Jesus Christ did not refuse to be delivered into the hands of guilty men, and to undergo the torments of the Cross, who livest and reignest world without end. Amen.

COLLECT OF THE SACRED WINDING-SHEET.

Oremus.

Domine Jesu qui in Sancta Sindone, qua corpus tuum sacratissimum de Cruce depositum a Joseph involutum fuit, passionis tuæ vestigia reliquisti; concede propitius, ut per mortem et sepulturam tuam, ad resurrectionis gloriam perducamur. Qui vivis, &c. Amen.

Let us pray.

O Lord, who in the Holy Winding Sheet, in which Thy Most Sacred Body was wrapped by St. Joseph after it was taken down from the Cross, has left to us a memorial of Thy passion; mercifully grant that, by Thy death and burial we may be brought to the glory of Thy resurrection. Who livest, &c. Amen.

DALZIEL, BROTHERS, CAMDEN PRESS, LONDON.

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